

[Mashable](#) , the tech blog about social networks and new websites, is featuring a [series of articles](#) on Government 2.0 written by Dr. Mark Drapeau. From his first post:

“Some explanation of who I am is necessary here. Based inside a government think tank called the Center for Technology and National Security Policy, or [CTNSP](#) , led by Dr. Hans Binnendijk formerly of the National Security Council staff, I’m supposed to be thinking “big thoughts” all day as part of a [fellowship program](#) that recruits PhD-level scientists into public service with the federal government.

“But wait a second, who am I to be analyzing social networking technology? Aren’t I a biologist who [collects wild parasitic wasps from birds’s nests](#) , [videotapes tiny fruit flies copulating](#) and was part of the [international honey bee genome project](#) ? All true. But at a fundamental level, studying complex behavioral and genetic networks in animals is not so different from understanding human social networks. So to some extent, when it comes to explaining social software to military policymakers – I’m the perfect guy for the job.”

What began as a two-part post on Mashable has now become an ongoing series. Topics include security, branding, and how government agencies are using social networking tools.